

Message Text

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41

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 AID-05 EB-07 COME-00 PM-03

NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PRS-01 L-02

OES-03 /079 W

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P R 081318Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0610

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION USUN UNEW YORK

AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU

AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L NIAMEY 1723

GENEVA FOR CARTWRIGHT; PARIS FOR HELLMAN; AYGXW FOR AMBASSADOR HECK

E.O. 11652: NGDS

TAGS: PFOR, SENV, NG, XY

SUBJECT: GON EXPRESSES CONCERN ABOUT SAHEL WATER DATA NETKHEK
AND NOAA VISIT

1. SECRETARY OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND COOPERATION
ALFIDJA CONVOKED ME EVEN MAY 6 TO CONVEY GON OBJECTIONS
TO US HYDRO-METEOROLOGICAL PROPOSAL FOR SAHEL. ALFIDJA SAID
GON INTERPRETED US PROPOSITION AS IT WAS PRESENTED TO THEM
IN LETTER FROM CILSS AS QUOTE RIVAL PROPOSAL UNQUOTE LARGELY
DUPLICATING UNDP/WMO EFFORTS BUT WITH SOME BASIC DIFFERENCES
THAT COULD SERIOUSLY DELAY REALIZATION OF PROJECT OR DETRACT
FROM DESIRED GOALS. HE SEEMED PARTICULARLY SENSITIVE TO USG
SUGGESTION OF CIEH AS UMBRELLA ORGANIZATION (WITH IMPLI-
CATION THAT OUAGA INSTEAD OF NIAMEY BE SITE OF REGIONAL CENTER).
HE ALSO WANTED TO KNOW RATIONALE OF SENDING SPECIAL
TEAMS TO NIGER AND OTHER SAHELIAN COUNTRIES TO GATHER
DATA AND INQUIRE ABOUT ATTITUDES, CAPABILITIES
AND PLANS FOR PROJECT WHICH HE CHARACTERIZED AS
ALREADY RESEARCHED, DFID AND APPROVED. IN HIS
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OPINION, UNDP/WMO PROJECT WAS READY TO MOVE AND

NEEDED ONLY SUPPLEMENTARY FINANCING, NOT FURTHER
STUDY OR MODIFICATION.

2. I TOLD HIM I WOULD REPORT GON'S DEMARCHE REGARDING USG
PROPOSAL. I ADDED THAT OUR PURPOSE WAS TO BE HELPFUL
TO EXTENT POSSIBLE. I SAID I WAS NOT FAMILIAR WITH
THE DETAILS OF WHAT HAD BEEN PROPOSED TO CILSS, BUT
IT SHOULD NOT BE CONSIDRED A RIVAL PROPOSITION OR AN
ATTEMPT TO UNDERMINE UNDP/WMO PROJECT. I SAID ANY
MISUNDERSTANDING WAS UNINTENTIONAL AND PROBABLY
ATTRIBUTABLE TO FAULTY COORDINATION. I SAID I INTERPRETED
PURPOSE OF TRAVELING NOAA TEAMS AS WELL AS ATTENDANCE
AT NIAMEY CONFERENCE BY DR GATES AS EFFORT ACQUIRE
SUPPLEMENTAL DATA TO ALLOW WASHINGTON REACH DECISION ON
HOW BEST TO ASSIST UNDP/WMO PROJECT. ALFIDJA RESPONDED BY
SAYING REGARDLESS OF MY ASSURANCES THAT USG PROPOSAL NOT
ATTEMPT TO DELAY OR IMPEDE UNDP PROJECT, ITS EFFECT WAS
PRECISELY THAT AND THUS GON FORCED TO REGISTER DISPLEASURE
AND CONCERN.BUCHE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: HYDROELECTRIC POWER PLANTS, PROGRAMS (PROJECTS), VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 08 MAY 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ElyME
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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